

They suffered bitterly from the cold, but after a few hours of this the authorities were able to find shelter for them in the surrounding towns.

At a meeting of the municipal council to-day, one of the members proposed that the city should be re-constituted, because of the pestiferous conditions, that the government has taken the most elaborate precautions and that there is nothing to be gained by following the instructions issued by the Board of Health.

**Fear Royalist Plot.**

Among the people of the city is an anxiety as to future events, although no further inundations is feared. It will probably be the best part of a year before the roads and buildings are put in their previous condition, which means that the government has a heavy task before it, and France very easily become disaffected with its government.

Should there be delay in the reorganization of the city, and this is almost inevitable, there will be discontent everywhere, which may, perhaps, ferment. Then it is feared that the sword of Damocles, which France is always on the watch for, may fall. The Orleansists may seize the opportunity to stir up strife and revolution. Although this anxiety may seem absurd, it is not, for the Orleansists are not understanding the intricacies of French politics, it is far from unreasonable.

It is well known that certain Orleansists are always on the watch for the movement when their country is in a state of anarchy, and that the Orleansists may seize the opportunity to stir up strife and revolution. Although this anxiety may seem absurd, it is not, for the Orleansists are not understanding the intricacies of French politics, it is far from unreasonable.

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At present everybody is most enthusiastic about the government's efforts to alleviate the suffering. Prefect of Police Leprieux is more than ever the idol of the country. His every appearance is greeted with cheers. It is said that there is a movement on foot to arrange a sort of national presentation to him.

**Thanks to Massachusetts.**

Boston, Mass., January 30.—A cablegram was received from Paris to-day thanking Massachusetts people for the sum of \$25,000 francs forwarded Saturday for the relief of the flood sufferers in Paris. The cablegram reads: "Profundely touched by the admirable generosity with which the people of Massachusetts have responded to the appeal of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, the government of the republic of France addresses you and

requests you to express to them its profound gratitude. Let us shake hands heartily."

**Safer in Paris.**

Washington, D. C., January 30.—That Americans are safer in Paris than they would be in any other city, is the advice given by Consul-General Mason in response to many inquiries received by him through the State Department. In a cablegram received by the Secretary of State, Mr. Mason suggests that Americans should remain in Paris until the conditions become settled. He has found no instance in which any American has suffered seriously from the effects of the flood.

**What Caused It.**

Washington, January 30.—An abnormal distribution of atmospheric pressure was responsible for the heavy rains and resultant destructive floods which have played havoc in Paris and the surrounding French provinces. This was the declaration made to-night by Willis L. Moore, chief of the United States Weather Bureau. He says that there was shown a remarkable persistence of abnormally barometric pressure over the Iceland area and adjacent European coasts. While great cyclonic areas prevailed in the high latitudes of the Pacific and the Atlantic, the barometer pressure, he points out, was unusually high over Siberia, the Azores, and the tropical and subtropical regions of the Pacific.

**She Floats in Air, Talks Strange Language and Gives Other Signs of Being in Power of Evil One.**

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

Charlotte, N. C., January 30.—Charlotte, P. E. I., January 30.—A small settlement at the extreme eastern end of Prince Edward Island, has been known for a number of years as a place of intense nervous excitement by a series of supernatural phenomena surrounding a young woman named Chinese. The ignorant farmers believe the girl is possessed of a devil, and Rev. Father Walker, of Rollo Bay, the parish priest, has been importuned to perform the ceremony of exorcism once reported to by the Catholic Church for the purpose of curing one possessed of devils.

The Chinese girl is about twenty years old. Since the death of her parents, she has been keeping house for her brothers, small farmers of New Zealand. Several months ago the oldest brother informed his sister that he believed to be a dying condition as a charity patient in a local hospital. On hearing the announcement, burst into a fit of rage, and declared that she "would as soon have a devil in her family as that girl."

That night the household was aroused by loud noises, which seemed to come from all parts of the house. Then the voice of the girl, shrieking in agony, was heard from her room. The brother, fearing his sister was being murdered, rushed to the girl's room, followed by other members of the family. When they opened the door, they declared, they saw the young woman lying in the air, her feet above her head, and she was talking incoherently and in a language, much different from that used by her in ordinary conversation. The girl then fell back on her bed and fell into a natural sleep. When she awoke next morning she knew nothing of the occurrence. Night after night the same performance was repeated.

News of the happenings soon leaked out among the farmers, and these simple people came to believe that the girl, by her sacrilegious remark concerning her prospective sister-in-law, had given herself over to the evil one.

**Has Clairvoyant Powers.**

The girl developed clairvoyant powers while in that state, and these simple people came to believe that the girl, by her sacrilegious remark concerning her prospective sister-in-law, had given herself over to the evil one.

The local doctors were called in to treat the girl, but could do nothing. Next, the parish priest's assistance was sought, but the same prayers seemed to be unavailing.

Meanwhile the excitement in the neighborhood became so intense that Father Walker issued a notice to parishioners forbidding any further visits to the home of the young woman.

Several physicians were summoned from this city for consultation. Among them was Dr. Peter Conroy, chief of

the staff at the Charlestown Hospital. Dr. Conroy declares that in the Chinese girl's case nothing has happened which cannot be explained by science. His personal theory is that the young woman is suffering from auto-hypnotism with "obsessive influences."

He also advances the theory that by involuntarily hypnotizing herself, she creates delusions in the minds of those around her. All efforts to relieve Miss Chinese, having been unavailing, her health has given way under the strain, and she was brought last week to the Falconer Hospital for the Insane, in this city, where she will be given medical attention, with a view to ridding her of the strange influences which have been wrecking her life.

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